GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:379
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
DECREASING CULTIVATION AREA OF WHEAT AND RICE
Sujatha Smt. C.S.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cultivating areas of wheat and rice are decreasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of factors contributing to the decrease in the cultivation of these grains, State- wise;

(d) whether the Government perceive any threat to the food security in future due to the decrease in production of these grains; and

(e) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to check the decrease in the area of cultivable land and to increase production of foodgrains in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 379 DUE FOR REPLY ON 22ND AUGUST, 2005.

(a)&(b): The area under rice declined from 44.71 million hectares in 2000-01 to 41.18 million hectares in 2002-03, which largely reflected the impact of the severe drought of 2002 that affected several States/regions in the country. The area under rice improved to 42.50 million hectares in 2003-04. The normal area under rice (average of area figures for five years ending 2003-04) in the country is 43.69 million hectares. As regards wheat, the area declined marginally from 25.73 million hectares in 2000-01 to 25.20 million hectares in 2002-03. The area under wheat improved to 26.58 million hectares in 2003-04. The normal area under wheat in the country is 26.27 million hectares. The State-wise details are given in Annexure.

(c): As can be seen from the figures given at the Annex, major rice growing States , namely, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, which together contribute around 40% of the total rice production in the country, did not register any decline in area under rice during the period 2000- 01 to 2003-04. In fact, in West Bengal the area under rice increased by 4.22 lakh hectares during this period. As regards Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Assam, Orissa, and Chattisgarh which together also account for around 40% of the total rice production in the country, the area under rice declined marginally in Assam, Bihar and Chattisgarh, while it declined significantly in both Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. However, in the case of Orissa, the area under rice registered increase by 0.67 lakh hectares during this period. The major cause of decline in area under rice in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu is the decline in availability of water and the resulting shift from more water intensive crops like rice to less water intensive crops like coarse cereals and pulses, and also oilseeds in the case Andhra Pradesh.

As regards wheat, out of the six major wheat growing States, namely, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar which together account for 90 - 95% of the total wheat production in the country, the decline in area was marginal in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana while there was a marginal increase in area in both Punjab and Bihar. Though there was a fairly significant decline in area in Rajasthan by about 2 lakh hectares ,this was more than offset by the increase in area by about 8 lakh hectares in Madhya Pradesh during the same period.

(d)&(e): No, Sir. Despite the inter-year fluctuations in production of foodgrains caused mostly by weather-related shocks, the stock of foodgrains (mostly rice and wheat) in the Central Pool has been well above the buffer norms except in July, 2005 when it declined to 25.11 million tonnes compared with the norm of 26.90 million tonnes. The marginal shortfall in stock vis-Ã -vis buffer norm levels reflects the combined impact of lower procurement of wheat in 2005-06 and upward revision of buffer norms for wheat. Since land resources are limited in supply, increase in production commensurate with increase in population can be achieved only through higher productivity (yield per hectare). This in turn presupposes assured irrigation to obtain full benefits from yield raising inputs. Government has, therefore, identified irrigation, including micro irrigation as thrust area for focused and priority attention. The outlay on Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) has, therefore, been raised to Rs.4,800 crore in 2005-06 from Rs.2,800 crore in 2004-05. Similarly, a sum of Rs.400 crore has been provided in the Budget for micro irrigation in 2005-06. Keeping in view the need for enabling farmers to meet the expenses on yield raising inputs, it has been decided to step up credit disbursement by 30% in 2005-

06 over the disbursement of Rs.1,15,243 crore in 2004-05.

Annexure 1

Cultivated Area Under Rice

(000` hectares)

State/ UT	Season	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Andhra Pradesh	Kharif	3004	2426.1	2109.3	2109
	Rabi	1239	1398.7	713	866
	Total	4243	3824.8	2822.3	2975
Arunachal Pradesh	Kharif	118.6	119.5	124.6	119.2
Assam	Autumn	539.7	496	465	441.1
	Winter	1777.3	1715	1749	1769.2
	Kharif	2317	2211	2214	2210.3
	Total				
	Summer	329.3	326	327	319.5
	Total	2646.3	2537	2541	2529.8
Bihar	Autumn	591.7	593.8	583.3	562.2
	Winter	2939.3	2843.6	2881.1	2872.8
	Kharif	3531	3437.4	3464.4	3435
	Total				
	Summer	125.3	114.9	120.3	122
	Total	3656.3	3552.3	3584.7	3557
Chattisgarh	Kharif	3769.7	3810.1	3777.7	3718.3
Goa	Autumn	41	32.8	33.7	35.5
	Winter	16.2	16.6	16.5	17.3
	Total	57.2	49.4	50.2	52.8
	Kharif				
Gujarat	Kharif	583.6	667.9	468.9	675.3
Haryana	Kharif	1054	1028	906	1016
Himachal Pradesh	Kharif	81.5	80.6	83.3	81.3
Jammu & Kashmir	Kharif	244.1	249.8	236.2	259.8
Jharkh and	Autumn	182.1	187	170.1	167.6
	Winter	1298.9	1333.6	1213.1	1195.4
	Kharif	1481	1520.6	1383.2	1363
	Total				
Karnat aka	Kharif	1120.5	1088	1030.5	944
	Rabi	52	53.5	50.5	83.2
	Summer	310.9	276.3	73.8	121.8
	Total	362.9	329.8	124.3	205
	Rabi/ Summer				
	Total	1483.4	1417.8	1154.8	1149

Kerala Autumn 129.8 116.5 112.4 151.5
Kharif 292.2 278.5 269.4 254.3
Total
Summer 55.3 43.9 41.1 37.2
Total 347.5 322.4 310.5 291.5

Madhya Pradesh Kharif 1707.6 1776.4 1681.3 1674.5
Maharashtra Kharif 1486.4 1487.2 1497 1500
Rabi 25 27 26 35
Total 1511.4 1514.2 1523 1535

Manipur Kharif 157 162.6 144.5 157.6
Meghalaya Kharif 102.6 102 102 102.2
Rabi 4 5.7 5.7 7.5
Total 106.6 107.7 107.7 109.7
Mizoram Kharif 51.3 55.2 56.6 58.8
Rabi 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.4
Total 51.9 55.8 57.1 59.2
Nagaland Kharif 150 156.5 151 150.2

Orissa Autumn 855 853 808 861
Winter 3372 3375 3287 3386
Kharif 4227 4228 4095 4247
Total
Summer 207 272 178 254
Total 4434 4500 4273 4501

Punjab Kharif 2611 2487 2530 2614

Rajasthan Kharif 166.3 144.4 83.9 99.7

Sikkim Kharif 15.2 15.7 14.8 14.7

Tamil Nadu Autumn 315.4 311 184.9 140.6
Winter 1569.2 1506 1204.5 1136.9
Kharif 1884.6 1817 1389.4 1277.5
Total
Summer 195.4 243 127.1 119.1
Total 2080 2060 1516.5 1396.6

Tripura Autumn 48.6 44.5 36.4 46.8
Winter 137.2 142.9 158.9 136.5
Kharif 185.8 187.4 195.3 183.3
Total
Summer 55.3 59.3 60 54.4
Total 241.1 246.7 255.3 237.7

Uttar Pradesh Kharif 5904.1 6068 5209.1 5948.9
Rabi/ 3 3 4 3.1
Summer

Total 5907.1 6071 5213.1 5952

Uttaranchal Kharif 312.7 298.9 283 293

West Bengal Autumn 393.9 402.5 385 339.8
Winter 3639.5 4211.6 4051.1 4126.7
Kharif 4033.4 4614.1 4436.1 4466.5
Total

	Summer	1401.8	1455	1406	1390.1
	Total	5435.2	6069.1	5842.1	5856.6
A & N Islands	Kharif	10.9	9.8	10.9	10.6
D & N Haveli	Kharif	13.6	13.5	13.7	13.5
Delhi	Kharif	6.1	6.4	6.1	6.5
Daman & Diu	Kharif	2	1.8	1.6	1.8
Pondicherry	Autumn	6.2	6.1	5.5	6.3
	Winter	14.4	14.5	12.7	12.2
	Kharif	20.6	20.6	18.2	18.5
	Total				
	Summer	5.5	5.7	5.9	5.9
	Total	26.1	26.3	24.1	24.4
All India	Autumn	3103.4	3043.2	2784.3	2703.7
	Winter	14926.4	15320.8	14730.9	14804.5
	Kharif	22672.8	22255.4	20522	21568.9
	Kharif	40702.6	40619.4	38037.2	39077.1
	Total				
	Summer	4009.4	4284.6	3138.9	3419.2
	Total	44712.0	44904.0	41176.1	42496.3

Cultivated Area under Wheat

(000` Hectares)

State/ UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Andhra Pradesh	14.0	14.0	11.0	12.0
Arunachal Pradesh	4.4	3.8	4.1	4.2
Assam	70.3	72.2	69.0	70.0
Bihar	2067.8	2126.3	2130.9	2119.0
Chhatisgarh	77.8	97.9	92.8	102.9
Gujarat	286.1	470.1	435.6	759.5
Haryana	2355.0	2300.0	2267.0	2303.0
Himachal Pradesh	362.7	366.5	359.4	361.0
Jammu & Kashmir	281.0	259.0	244.2	262.0
Jharkhand	63.7	65.4	64.0	75.0
Karnataka	266.0	260.5	246.9	231.0
Madhya Pradesh	3311.2	3703.8	3381.6	4045.5
Maharashtra	754.0	776.0	760.0	668.0
Meghalaya	4.2	2.8	2.7	0.9
Nagaland	5.0	6.0	8.0	5.5
Orissa	8.8	7.0	4.6	5.1
Punjab	3408.0	3420.0	3375.0	3444.0
Rajasthan	2309.6	2287.5	1800.7	2103.1

Sikkim	7.2	7.7	6.3	5.7
Tamil Nadu	0.1			
Tripura	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.2
Uttar Pradesh	9239.3	9256.0	9094.0	9150.1
Uttaranchal	379.0	380.2	411.0	397.0
West Bengal	426.0	434.0	405.4	425.7
D & N Haveli	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5
Delhi	27.8	26.1	19.9	29.1
All India	25730.6	26344.7	25195.7	26581.0